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Letter dated 6 December 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the official communiqué issued by the Presidency of the Democratic Republic of the Congo concerning the good offices mission given to the Conférence épiscopale nationale du Congo (CENCO) to reach out to the political and social forces of the opposition that did not sign the Political Agreement of 18 October 2016, with a view to obtaining a broader consensus on the Political Agreement for the organization of peaceful, credible and transparent elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ignace **Gata Mavita**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 6 December 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Official communiqué from the Presidency of the Republic

This Monday, 5 December 2016, the President of the Republic, Head of State, His Excellency Mr. Joseph Kabila Kabange, received in audience the delegation of the Conférence épiscopale nationale du Congo (CENCO), led by its Chair, Archbishop Monsignor Marcel Utembi Tapa, but also including its Vice-Chair, Archbishop Monsignor Fridolin Ambongo. The audience took place after the President of the Republic was made aware, through the media, of a CENCO communiqué indicating some of the difficulties encountered and the various reactions to that communication.

During the audience, the delegation informed the President of the Republic about the mission that had been given to CENCO on 29 October 2016.

The CENCO delegation presented to the Head of State a progress report on the good offices mission mentioned above, namely to reach out to the other actors of the opposition that did not participate in the dialogue, in order to ensure a broader consensus on the Political Agreement for the organization of peaceful, credible and transparent elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, signed on 18 October 2016 at the Cité de l'Union Africaine. As a reminder, article 24 of the agreement states as follows:

> "The present Agreement is open for signature to other political parties and political groups as well as other civil society organizations that undertake to comply with all its provisions".

The delegation concluded its report by wishing that the work that had been initiated could continue as soon as possible.

Reacting to the report, upon receiving the comments of the Secretary General of the Presidential Majority, the Head of State:

(a) Encouraged CENCO to carry on with its mission, after assuring it of his full support;

(b) Drew the attention of CENCO to the need for the formal authentication of the working documents provided by the different political and social groupings, whether they signed the Political Agreement or not;

(c) Reiterated his commitment to respect the Constitution and the Political Agreement of 18 October 2016 as a road map for the settlement of differences on the organization of the electoral process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the observations of all parties being subject to discussions between the political and social actors mentioned above, with a view to enhancing the aforementioned Agreement, as necessary;

(d) Requested the different groups and organizations that are urging their members to engage in violent acts to issue a call for calm.

Done at Kinshasa, on 5 December 2016

(*Signed*) Néhémie **Mwilanya Wlondja**
Chief of Staff